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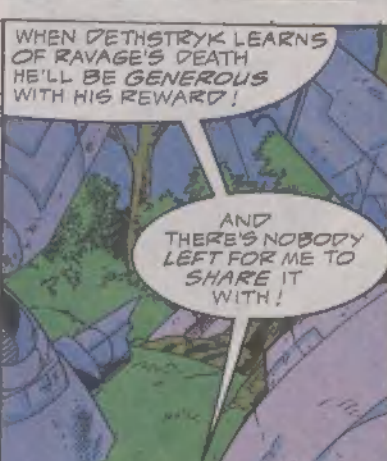
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RAVAGE

2099

DOGFIGHT
OVER
NYC!

20
99



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I'M
FREE!

IT'S MY HANDS!
THE POWER IN 'EM
IS BLASTIN' THE ROCKS
LIKE THEY'RE
PEBBLES!

STAN LEE
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PAUL RYAN
PENCILER

WILLIAMS &
LAROSA
INKERS
PHIL
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LETTERER

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GOING
COLORIST
JOEY
CAVALIERI
EDITOR

TOM DE FALCO
EDITOR IN CHIEF

RAVAGE CREATED BY
STAN LEE & PAUL RYAN

Stan Lee PRESENTS:

THE POWER AND THE PERIL!



THE MORE POWER I USE,
THE WEAKER I GET!

MY GLOVES!
GOTTA PUT
'EM ON!

NOTHIN'
ELSE'LL
SMOTHER
THE
POWER!



EYE-
SIGHT'S
GOTTEN
WORSE
THAN
EVER!

CAN'T
HARDLY
SEE
OUTTA
MY
LEFT
EYE!



URSELL'S DEAD NOW!
HE AIN'T GONNA CARE
IF I LOOK THROUGH
TH' STUFF HE'S BEEN
COLLECTIN' FER
YEARS!

I KNEW IT! JUST WHAT I NEED!
FIGGERED HE'D HAVE AN ADJUST-
ABLE OPTI-LENS AROUND
HERE SOMEWHERE!

AN' LOOK'A THIS! AN UNOPENED
NUTRI-PAK! I'M HUNGRY ENUFF
T'EAT IT WRAPPER AN' ALL!

THE POOR OL'
GUY SAVED MY LIFE
BEFORE--AND HE'S
STILL DOIN' IT
FROM TH' GRAVE!



SO FAR I'M IN LUCK!
THE GLOVES'RE
KEEPIN' MY POWER
IN CHECK!



NOW ALL I GOTTA
DO IS FIGGER OUT
THE RIGHT ADJUST-
MENT FER THIS
HUNK'A GLASS!



'CAUSE IF I'M GONNA
MAKE IT OUTTA HERE,
I GOTTA BE ABLE
T'SEE WHAT I'M
DOIN'!



CAN'T KEEP HOLDIN'
THE SHOCKIN' LENS!

GOTTA RIG
UP A WAY
T'WEAR IT!

WELL,
IT AIN'T
GONNA WIN
ME NO BEAUTY
PRIZES, BUT
AT LEAST I
MADE IT
FIT!

AND THE
SELF-ADJUSTIN'
ISOTRONIC
CIRCUITS'LL LET ME
ZERO IN ON WHAT-
EVER I'M
LOOKIN' AT!

"NOT THAT
THERE'S MUCH
T'SEE IN
THIS --

"WAIT A
MINUTE!
WHAT'S
THAT?"

"C'MON, LITTLE
CIRCUITS, ZOOM
IN ON THAT
GODZILLA-SIZE
TARPAULIN UP
THERE!"

SOMEONE WENT
TO A LOTTA TROUBLE
T'COVER WHATEVER'S
UNDER THAT THING!

I'M
GONNA
FIND
OUT
WHY!

LOOKS LIKE A CRAZY OVERSIZED BATHTUB!

BUT THOSE CONTROLS--
THEY BELONG ON SOME
KINDA AIRCRAFT!

WAIT A
MINUTE!
THIS MUST
BE THE
ANTIQUE
FLYIN' CAR
URSELL TOLD
ME HE DUG
UP YEARS
AGO!

THE BARREN LAND IS TOXIC, THE POISON AIR POLLUTED! IT HAS EARNED ITS NAME--HELLROCK!

BUT WITHIN THE CASTLE OF DETH-STRYK RESIDES THE GREATEST HORROR BY FAR...

STAND ASIDE FOR ZARLOKK, MIGHTIEST WARRIOR OF ALL!

HALT, INTRUDER!

DETHSTRYK GRANTS AUDIENCE TO NONE THIS DAY!



DETHSTRYK!
I BRING
GLAD NEWS!

RAVAGE
IS DEAD!
SLAIN BY THE
MIGHT OF
ZARLOKK!

APPROACH
ME, THEN!
LET ME
SAVOR THE
DETAILS!



THE BATTLE WAS FIERCE! RAVAGE HAD THE STRENGTH OF A DOZEN MEN! HE KILLED ALL THE OTHERS!

BUT HE WAS NO MATCH FOR THE MIGHTY POWER OF ZARLOKK!

I SMASHED HIM TILL HE CRUMBLLED INTO A BLOODY, SHAPELESS PULP!

NO!



ZARLOKK LIES! THE HUMAN STILL LIVES--

MORE DANGEROUS THAN EVER!



YOU KNOW THE PRICE OF FAILURE!



I DIDN'T FAIL! I SAW HIM FALL!

BUT IF HE STILL LIVES, I'LL CRUSH HIM AGAIN!

YOU BORE ME, ZARLOKK-- AND BOREDOM DISPLEASES ME!



NO! I'M NOT SOME PUNY WEAKLING YA CAN PUSH AROUND!

I'M ZARLOKK-- MIGHTIEST OF ALL!

YOU DARE RAISE YOUR HAND AGAINST ME?

NOW YOU'LL LEARN WHAT MIGHT REALLY IS!





THIS
CHARADE
BEGINS TO
TIRE ME!

RUN, ZARLOKK!
FIND A PLACE
TO HIDE!

MY GUARDS
NEED
PRACTICE, TO
HONE THEIR
TRACKING
SKILLS!



HE'S LETTIN' ME
LIVE -- BUT HE
INSULTED ME,
MADE FUN OF
ME!

I'M A
WARRIOR!
HE KNOWS I'D
RATHER HE
KILLED ME!



HE DISGRACED ME!
THAT'S WORSE THAN
KILLIN' ME!

BUT IT
AIN'T OVER
YET! I CAN
OUT-FIGHT
A HUNDRED
OF HIS
GUARDS!



HE
TOUCHED
YOUR
ARM, MY
LORD!
WHAT IF HE
SHOULD
LEARN
YOUR
SECRET?

I AM DETHSTRYK!
DOES THE BEHEMOTH
WORRY ABOUT THE
GNAT?

NO, SIRE!
BUT EVEN AN
INSECT CAN HAVE
A POISONED
BITE!



LET 'EM COME--
ALL OF 'EM! I'LL
BE READY AND
WAITING!

THERE'S
GOTTA BE A
SECRET TO
DETHSTRYK'S
POWER--

--AND SOONER
OR LATER I'LL
FIND IT!



I LOOKED ALL OVER THIS CRUDDY CAVE--NO TRACE OF URSELL'S BODY!

AFTER ALL HE DID FER ME, HATE T'TAKE OFF WITHOUT GIVIN' HIM A DECENT BURIAL!

BUT, WHAT TH' SHOCK! AIN'T NO DECENT BURIAL PLACE IN THIS HELLHOLE, ANY-MORE!

AFTER THE LAST FIGHT, MY COAT'S A MESS OF BLAST HOLES!

HATE T'THINK I AIN'T SARTORIALLY RESPLENDENT ANYMORE!

MIGHT AS WELL GIT RID OF THE SCRUMMY THING--'FORE IT TARNISHES MY ELEGANT IMAGE!

BUT THE BLAST-PROOF KEVLAR LINING IS AS GOOD AS NEW!

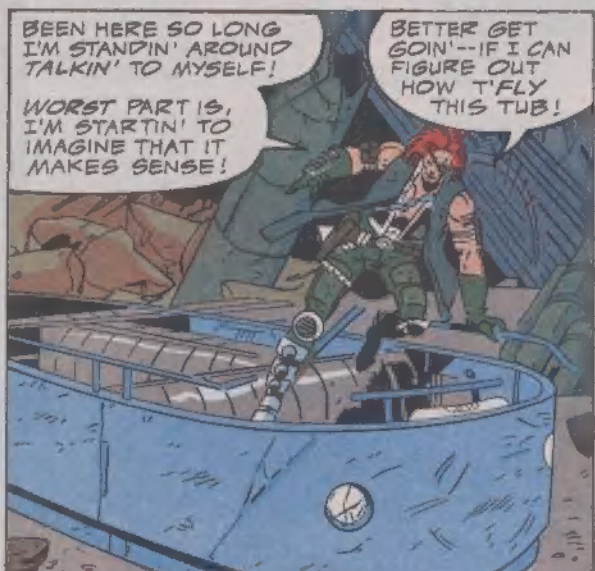
IT'S THE ONLY THING THAT EVENS THE ODDS FOR ME 'ROUND HERE!



HEY, NOT BAD! COULD START A WHOLE NEW FASHION TREND!

MEBBE I MISSED MY CALLING! "RAVAGE, MASTER OF HAUTE COUTURE! DESIGNER TO THE STARS!"

YEAH! SURE!



BEEN HERE SO LONG I'M STANDIN' AROUND TALKIN' TO MYSELF!

WORST PART IS, I'M STARTIN' TO IMAGINE THAT IT MAKES SENSE!

BETTER GET GOIN'--IF I CAN FIGURE OUT HOW T'FLY THIS TUB!

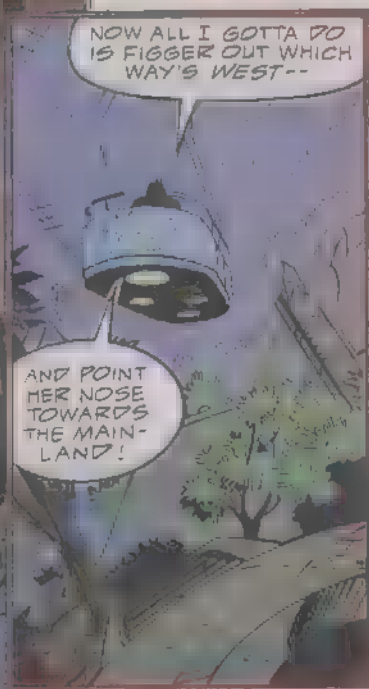
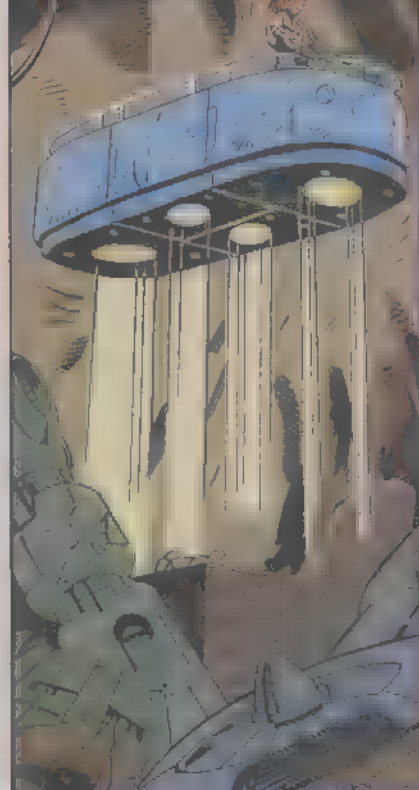


I COULD FLY THIS RATTLETRAP IN MY SLEEP!

BUT I AIN'T KNOCKIN' HER! SHE HANDLES SMOOTH AS A BABY'S BUTT!

HEYyyy, IT'S EASY! THE CONTROLS ARE REAL PRIMITIVE!

SHE'S GOTTA BE AT LEAST A HUNDRED YEARS OLD!



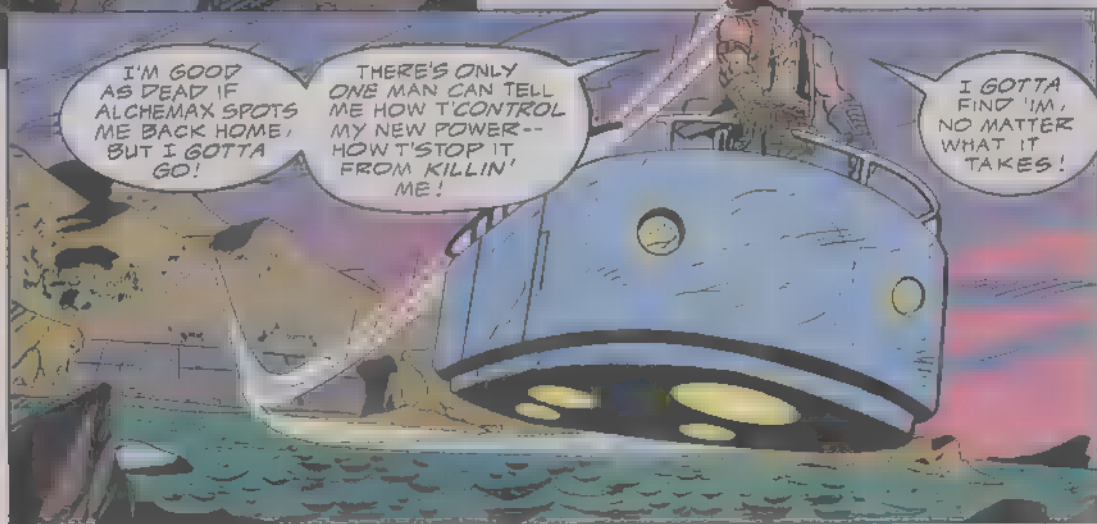
NOW ALL I GOTTA DO IS FIGGER OUT WHICH WAY'S WEST--

AND POINT HER NOSE TOWARDS THE MAIN-LAND!



HEY, GUYS, SORRY T'EAT AN' RUN THIS WAY--

--BUT JUST BETWEEN US, YER LOUSY COMPANY!



I'M GOOD AS DEAD IF ALCHEMAX SPOTS ME BACK HOME, BUT I GOTTA GO!

THERE'S ONLY ONE MAN CAN TELL ME HOW T'CONTROL MY NEW POWER-- HOW T'STOP IT FROM KILLIN' ME!

I GOTTA FIND 'IM, NO MATTER WHAT IT TAKES!

SPEAKING OF ALCHEMAX, ITS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ANDERTHROP HENTON, IS ENGAGED IN HIS FAVORITE PASTIME, WHEN...

THE VISI-PHONE!

I LEFT STRICT ORDERS NOT TO BE DISTURBED!

DON'T BE IRATE, BELOVED. WE HAVE THE WHOLE NIGHT AHEAD OF US.

BZZZZZZ

REPORT, TROOPER! AND THIS HAD BETTER BE URGENT!

IT'S THE UNDER-SEA POLLUTION LEVEL, SIR! IT'S GONE TO "CONDITION RED"!

WE THOUGHT IT WAS UNDER CONTROL--TILL NOW!

I KNEW YOU'D WANT TO BE INFORMED!

HAVE YOU TOLD ANYONE ELSE OF THIS DEVELOPMENT?

NEGATIVE, SIR! MY ORDERS ARE THAT YOU MUST ALWAYS BE FIRST TO KNOW!

POLLUTION LEVELS ARE OUR GRAVEST CONCERN!

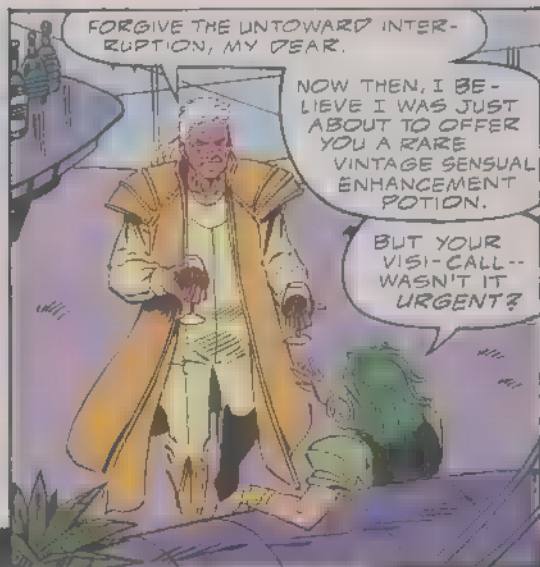
YOU DISPLAYED INITIATIVE AND INTELLIGENCE BY CONTACTING ME WITHOUT DELAY!

I SHALL SEE TO IT THAT YOU ARE DULY REWARDED!

AND NOW, I MUST TAKE INSTANT ACTION!

GOOD WORK, TROOPER!

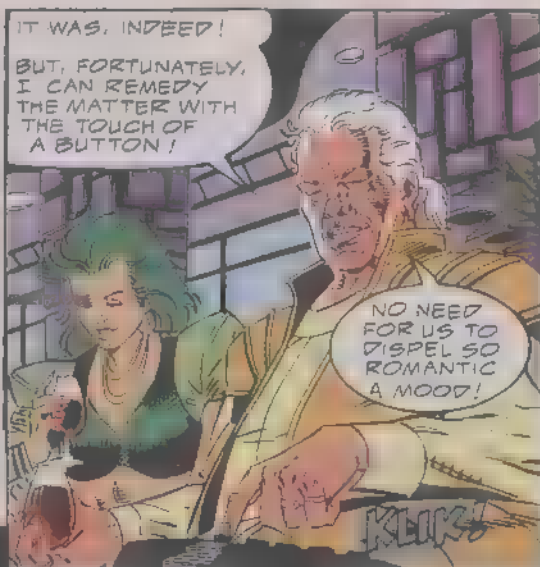
VISI-TALK ENDED!



FORGIVE THE UNTOWARD INTER-
RUPTION, MY DEAR.

NOW THEN, I BE-
LIEVE I WAS JUST
ABOUT TO OFFER
YOU A RARE
VINTAGE SENSUAL
ENHANCEMENT
POTION.

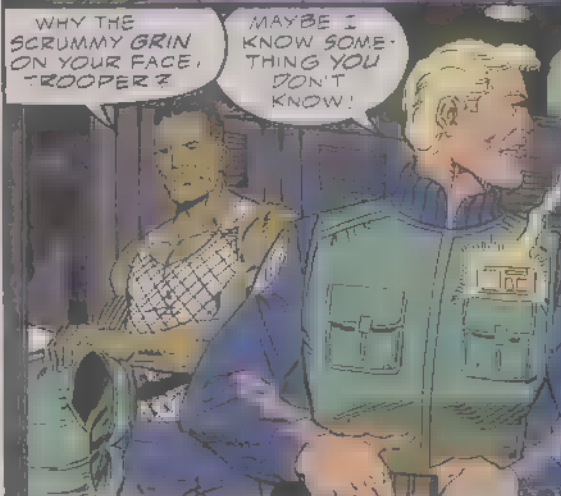
BUT YOUR
VISI-CALL--
WASN'T IT
URGENT?



IT WAS, INDEED!
BUT, FORTUNATELY,
I CAN REMEDY
THE MATTER WITH
THE TOUCH OF
A BUTTON!

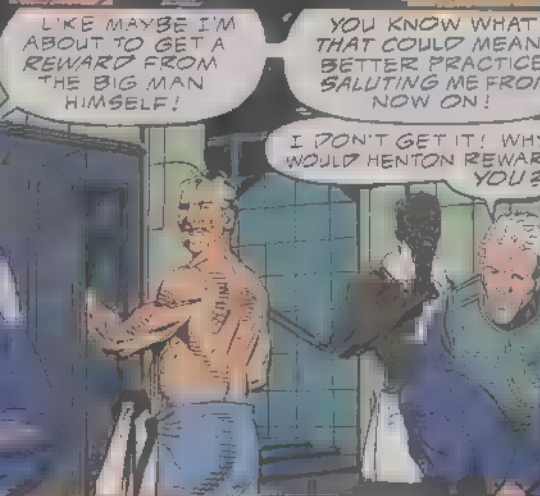
NO NEED
FOR US TO
DISPEL SO
ROMANTIC
A MOOD!

KLICK



WHY THE
SCRUNNY GRIN
ON YOUR FACE,
TROOPER?

MAYBE I
KNOW SOME-
THING YOU
DON'T
KNOW!



LIKE MAYBE I'M
ABOUT TO GET A
REWARD FROM
THE BIG MAN
HIMSELF!

YOU KNOW WHAT
THAT COULD MEAN!
BETTER PRACTICE
SALUTING ME FROM
NOW ON!

I DON'T GET IT! WHY
WOULD HENTON REWARD
YOU?



WHY? IT'S BECAUSE
I TOLD HIM--

MY BADGE!
IT'S HEATING
UP!



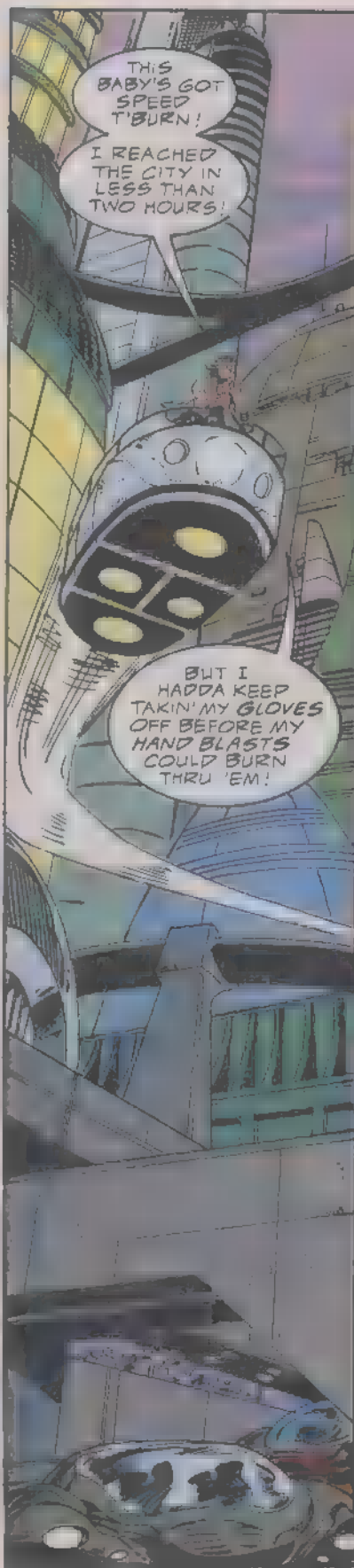
THE REMOTE
CIRCUIT'S BEEN
ACTIVATED!

CAN'T
STOP IT!
I-I'M
BURNING
UP! NO!
NO!



WHAT WAS IT HE
TOLD HENTON?

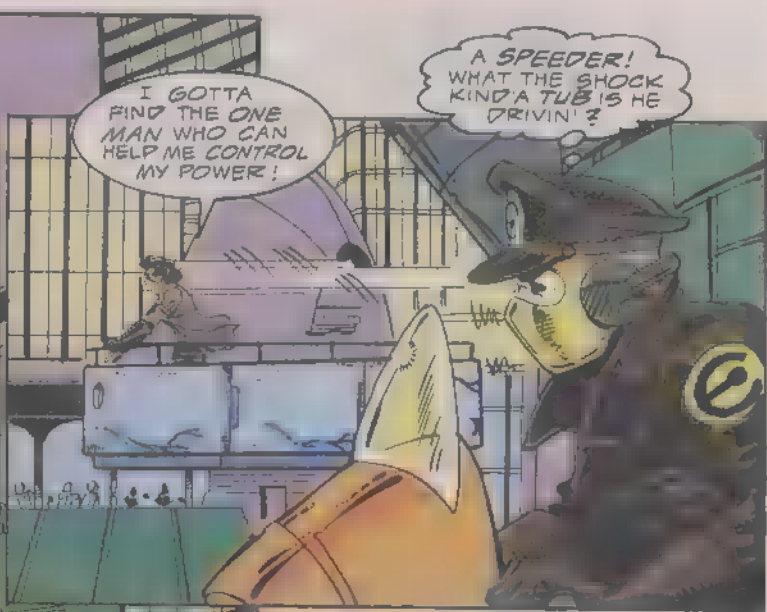
I
DON'T
WANNA
KNOW!



THIS
BABY'S GOT
SPEED
T'BURN!

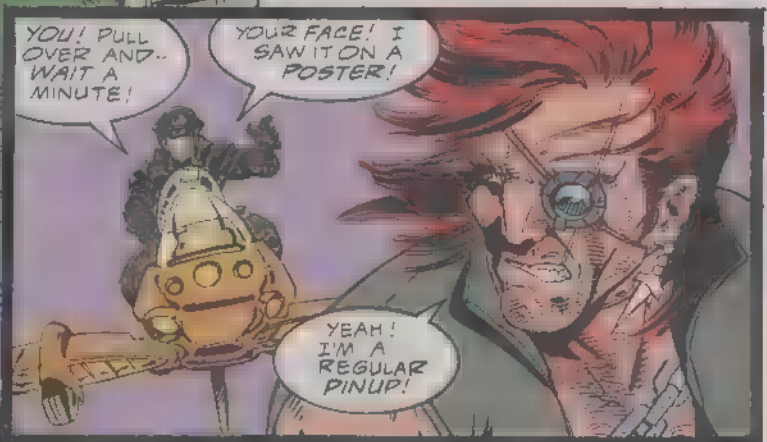
I REACHED
THE CITY IN
LESS THAN
TWO HOURS!

BUT I
HADDA KEEP
TAKIN' MY GLOVES
OFF BEFORE MY
HAND BLASTS
COULD BURN
THRU 'EM!



I GOTTA
FIND THE ONE
MAN WHO CAN
HELP ME CONTROL
MY POWER!

A SPEEDER!
WHAT THE SHOCK
KIND'A TUB IS HE
DRIVIN'?



YOU! PULL
OVER AND...
WAIT A
MINUTE!

YOUR FACE! I
SAW IT ON A
POSTER!

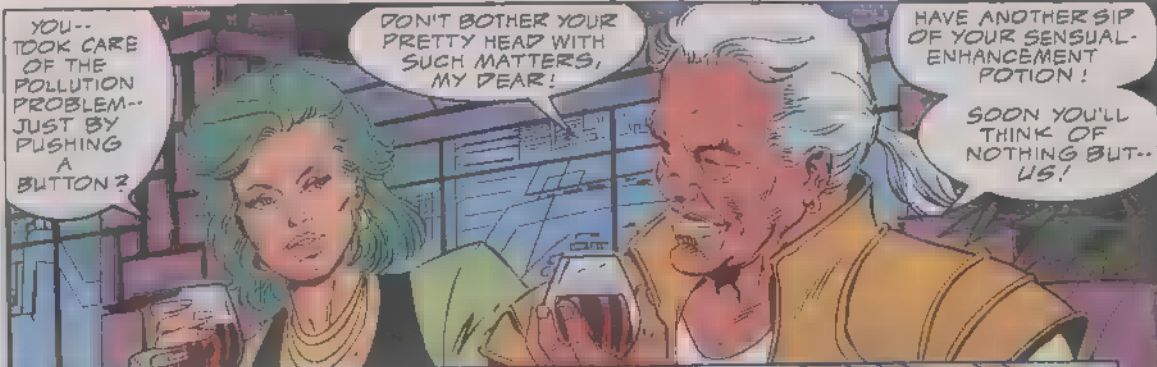
YEAH!
I'M A
REGULAR
PINUP!



YOU'RE
RAVAGE!

TELL ME
SOMETHIN'
I DON'T
KNOW!

HE'S TOO FAST!
GOTTA CALL FOR
BACK-UP!



YOU--
TOOK CARE
OF THE
POLLUTION
PROBLEM--
JUST BY
PUSHING
A
BUTTON?

DON'T BOTHER YOUR
PRETTY HEAD WITH
SUCH MATTERS,
MY DEAR!

HAVE ANOTHER SIP
OF YOUR SENSUAL-
ENHANCEMENT
POTION!

SOON YOU'LL
THINK OF
NOTHING BUT--
US!



I OUT-RAN
THAT PUBLIC EYE
RUSTPOT--

BUT HE'LL
HAVE CALLED
FOR BACK-UP
BY NOW!

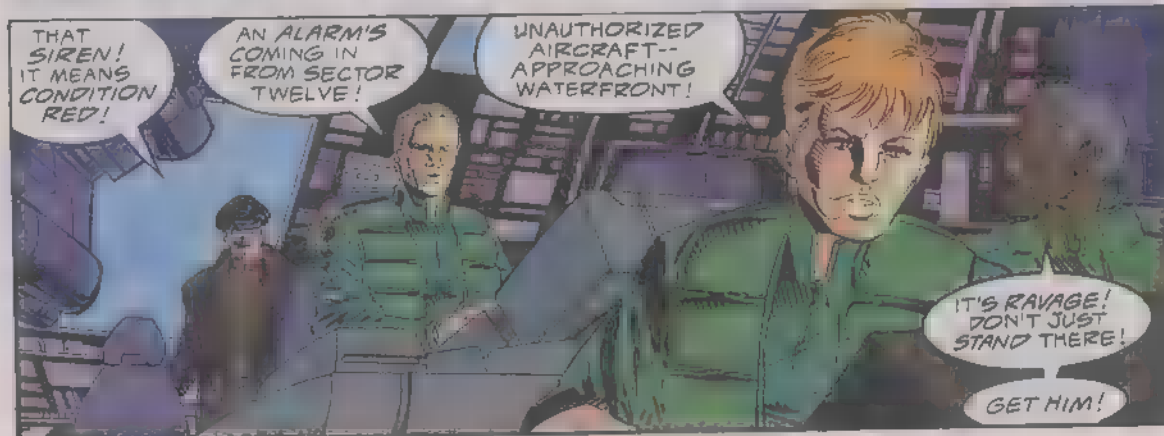
I'M A
SITTIN' DUCK
UP HERE!
GOTTA FIND
A PLACE
T' SET
DOWN!



THE WATERFRONT!
IT'S MY BEST BET!
LOTS'A PLACES
T' HIDE!

WISH I COULD
FIND TIANA
N' DACK! BUT
THEY COULD BE
ANYWHERE!

HOPE
THEY'RE
OKAY!



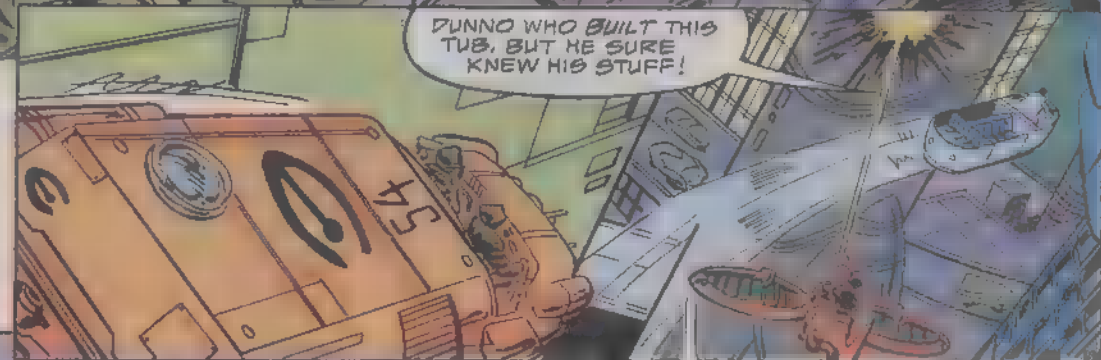
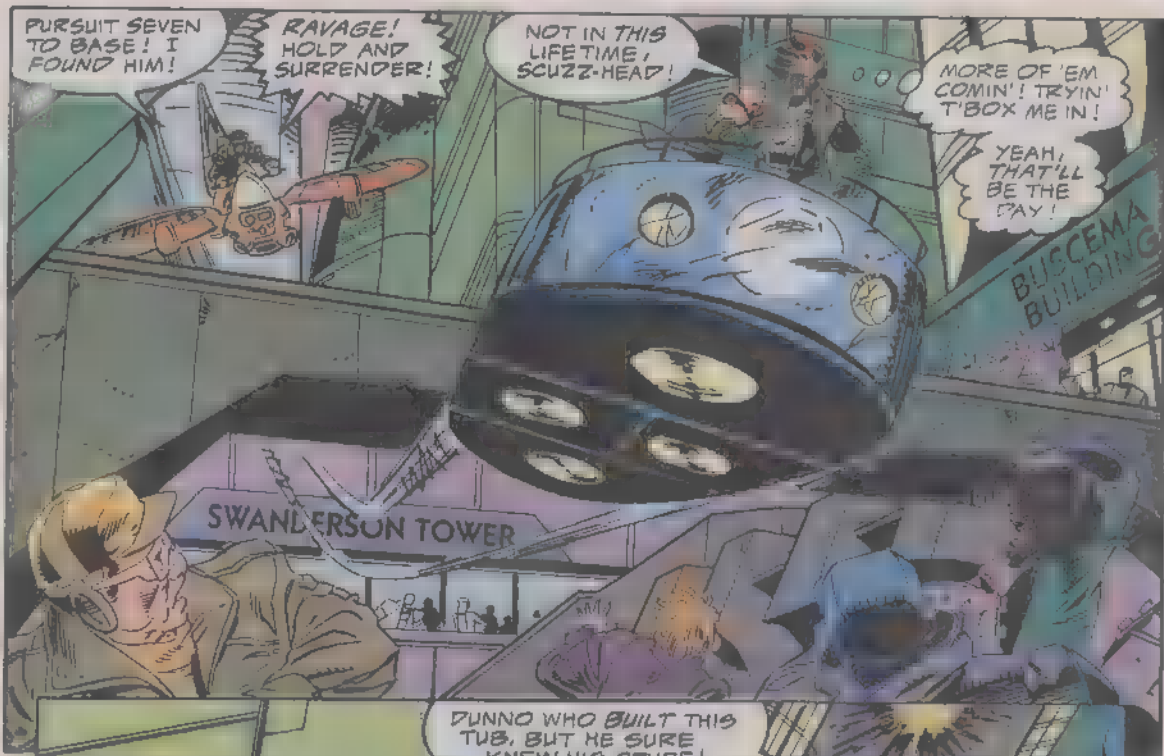
THAT
SIREN!
IT MEANS
CONDITION
RED!

AN ALARM'S
COMING IN
FROM SECTOR
TWELVE!

UNAUTHORIZED
AIRCRAFT--
APPROACHING
WATERFRONT!

IT'S RAVAGE!
DON'T JUST
STAND THERE!

GET HIM!



WHILE, AT THE WATER'S EDGE ...

HEAR THAT 2 PLANES
ZOOMIN' THIS WAY--
AND LOTS'A BLASTIN'!

THEY'RE
AFTER
US!

NO, DACK! IT ISN'T
US! WE'RE NOT
THAT IMPORTANT!

THERE'S
SOMETHING
BIG GOING
ON!

WHATEVER IT IS,
IT'S COMIN'
CLOSER!

I'M FOR
GETTIN'
OUTTA
HERE!

NOT YET!
NOT TILL
WE KNOW
WHAT'S
GOING
ON!

LISTEN!
WHAT'S
THAT
BUBBLING
SOUND?

IT'S COMIN'
FROM THE WATER!
IT'S--IT'S--

TIANA!

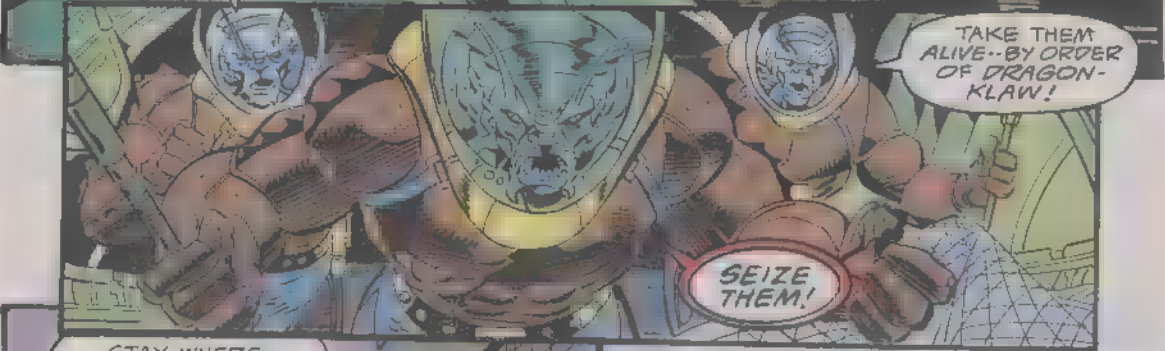
WHAT
THE
SHOCK
IS
IT?!!



TWO AIR
BREATHERS--
ALONE AND
DEFENSELESS!

IT'S SOME
KINDA SHIP!
COME UP
OUT OF THE
WATER!

THE
HATCH IS
OPENING!
SOMEONE'S
COMING
OUT!



TAKE THEM
ALIVE--BY ORDER
OF DRAGON-
KLAU!

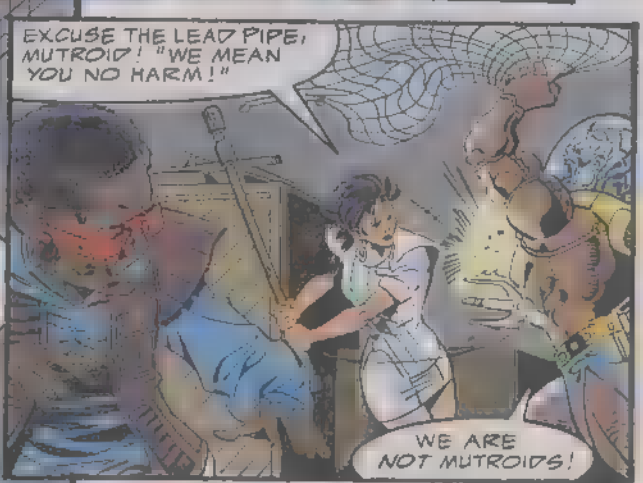
SEIZE
THEM!



STAY WHERE
YOU ARE, HUMAN!
WE MEAN YOU
NO HARM!

YEAH,
SURE!
THAT'S WHY
YOU'RE ARMED
TO THE
TEETH,
RIGHT?

WATCH
IT, TIANA!
HE'S GONNA
TOSS THAT
NET!



EXCUSE THE LEAD PIPE,
MUTROID! "WE MEAN
YOU NO HARM!"

WE ARE
NOT MUTROIDS!



WE ARE
WARRIORS
OF NEW
ATLANTIS!

I DON'T
CARE IF YOU'RE
LITTLE RED
RIDING
HOOD--

-- YOU
AIN'T
GETTIN'
ME!

MY LASER-PROD IS SET
TO LOWEST POWER!

I HAVE NO
WISH TO
HARM YOU!

THAT'S REAL
COMFORTIN'!
AND I GOT
NEWS FOR
YOU, TOO--

-- MY FOOT'S
SET AT LOWEST
POWER!

THIS'LL
ONLY HURT
FOR A
MINUTE!

THAT'LL
STOP 'EM!

THEY CAN'T FLY
WITH AN EXPLODIN'
FUEL TANK!

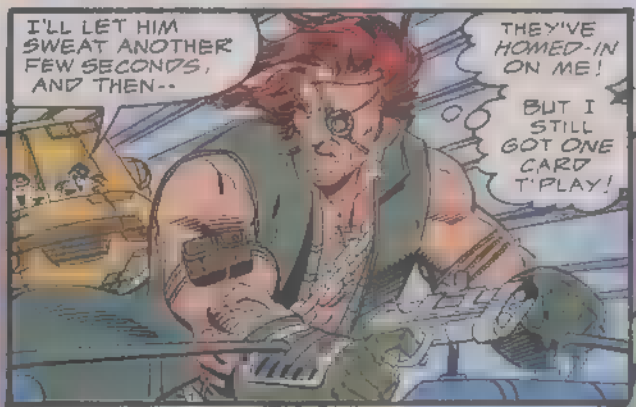
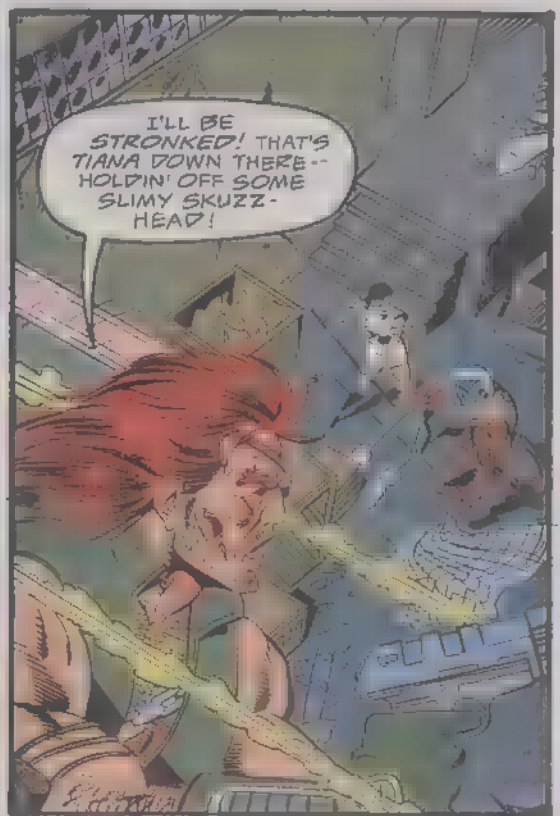
BUT
THERE'S
TOO MANY
OTHERS!

CAN'T
GIT 'EM
ALL!

MESSAGE FROM
H.Q.! TROUBLE
ON THE
WATERFRONT!

LET IT WAIT!
WE'RE NAILIN'
RAVAGE NO
MATTER
WHAT!

ANYWAY, LOOK! THE LOUSY
SON-OF-A-TROID'S HEADIN'
FOR THE WATERFRONT!



BULLPEN BULLETINS

TOM TALKS

Every time I visit a comic book shop these days, I seem to find some new magazine or book whose sole purpose is to act as an authoritative investment guide for our illustrative industry. These publications, which spring up faster than Quicksilver's runaway Pym particle, assign allegedly objective monetary values to comic book back issues. In some cases, they even publish prices on comics which have yet to be printed. These publications define the **comics** that are hot, and those that are not.

I guess all of these investment guides are a pur-
because **comics** awful lot of people seem to be buying them. However, it wasn't **comics** that long ago when life was simpler—and a bit more enjoyable, in my humble opinion—when the **comics** used to define a comic's popularity by themselves. They liked a certain title, they bought it. "Nuff said!"

I honestly have no problem with any of these guides, nor with those who feel compelled to use them. Whether someone buys **comics** for pure enjoyment or as a lucrative addition to his stock portfolio is hardly any of my business. As our peerless publisher, Stan the Man, once exclaimed in a letters page of long ago, "Heck, **comics** don't even care if you buy them for the staples as long as you buy them!"

On the other hand, I sincerely believe that our comics are the very **comics** this industry has ever seen. Anyone not reading them is missing out on an incredible, ever-expanding universe of pure entertainment! They have it all—drama, pathos, humor, **comics** even the occasional, odd bit of offbeat philosophy. Many of them also go up in value according to the investment tip sheets, but that's really beside the point.

Marvel has often been accused of fueling this speculator investment mentality. OUCH! That really hurts. We started to put enhancements on **comics** because we thought the special inks and foils helped to make them look really special. We **comics** putting comics in plastic bags because we wanted to include special trading cards and posters...and, because so many readers had complained **comics** the years whenever we had simply stapled them into our comics.

Trust **comics**, no true comic book professional ever **comics** down at the word processor, drawing board, or desk thinking about the prices his **comics** her **comics** will attain on the back issue market. We're always focused on **comics** story. Is it good, clear, and exciting enough? **comics** readers **comics** it? **comics** if expand the vistas of their imagination? Will they want more?

Speaking for myself, **comics** as my brothers and sisters in the **comics** industry, I have a special plea to **comics** of you investors out **comics**. Rip open your bags! **comics** your comics **comics**. Read them!

If we've been doing our jobs properly, you'll **comics** glad you did!

Thanks for being there,

Tom D.

Wake the neighbors, and phone the kids, as Dave "the 16 million dollar man" Letterman used to say. It's time for another eye-opening Bullpen Page.

Our very own "Professor" **comics** Felder, assistant editor to Hildy Men-
nik, was responsible for a few rude awakenings on **comics** recent episode of TV's "Good Day New York" show. Professor Felder, who never talks in his sleep—but he has been known to hum old Bee Gees tunes—is a member of the New York University Pipe Band. Together with two other

ators of our WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING **comics** (which has been permanently pinned **comics** of **comics** #12), writer Mike Lackey, and inker Don Hudson. Also on hand were PUNISHER assistant editor Tim Tuohy—who's been working on SLEEPWALKER so long, he could do it in his sleep—and Bullpenner Spencer Lamm—who would prefer it **comics** you touch him in the morning, and then just walk away. Dishing out the award were a couple of dishes who always sleep in twin beds—the world-famous Barbi Twins!

John Romita Jr., who wishes you would wake him up before you go-go—not after—received a write-up in the January issue of *Runner's World* magazine. *RRJ* said that he **comics** as a method of dealing with the pressures of tight deadlines. Or, as he put it, "The only thing that preserves my sanity is running." The article describes how a comic book is created from start to finish (and they actually got it right!), and details John's career **comics** Marvel, mentioning his work **comics** such as X-MEN, SPIDER-MAN, and DAREDEVIL. Also quoted in the article is running enthusiast/PUNISHER editor Don Daley, who sleeps **comics** eye open—and one nostril closed.



fellow pipers, the Prof went door to door with *Star Trek*'s "Scotty," Jimmy Doohan (who's not a bagpiper, but he plays one **comics** TV), waking up everyone they met. "Scotty" was in town to emcee the NY bagpiping festival, and apparently **comics** so impressed by the Professor's playing, that he was inspired **comics** go out and buy a kilt. The Prof was highly critical of Scotty's playing **comics** the movie *Star Trek 2*, commenting, "He may know his way around the Enterprise, but he pipes like a Klingon!"

One guy who never gets up on the wrong side of the mat is wrestling great Paul E. Dangerously, who **comics** past December **comics** awarded Manager of the Year in a star-studded ceremony that put **comics** all in a sleeperhold. In attendance were two of the cre-

Clive Barker, whose stories **comics** so scary they could wake the dead, dropped by the Marvel offices recently to check out the ultra-superheroic new Barkerverse. Clive met with Epic editor **comics** McLaurin, who doesn't know which to smell first when he wakes up—the coffee **comics** **comics**. Coming in July **comics** four new Clive-erific titles which promise plenty of badtime stories: HYPERKIND, ECTO-KID, HOKUM **comics** HEX, and SAINT SINNER. Marc promises the new books **comics** be "super heroes with a Barkerian twist!" That's enough to give even Pin-Head nightmares!

With **comics** these new books coming out, you may not be able to sleep at night. **comics** that's okay. Like **comics** Jovi says, you can sleep when you're dead!

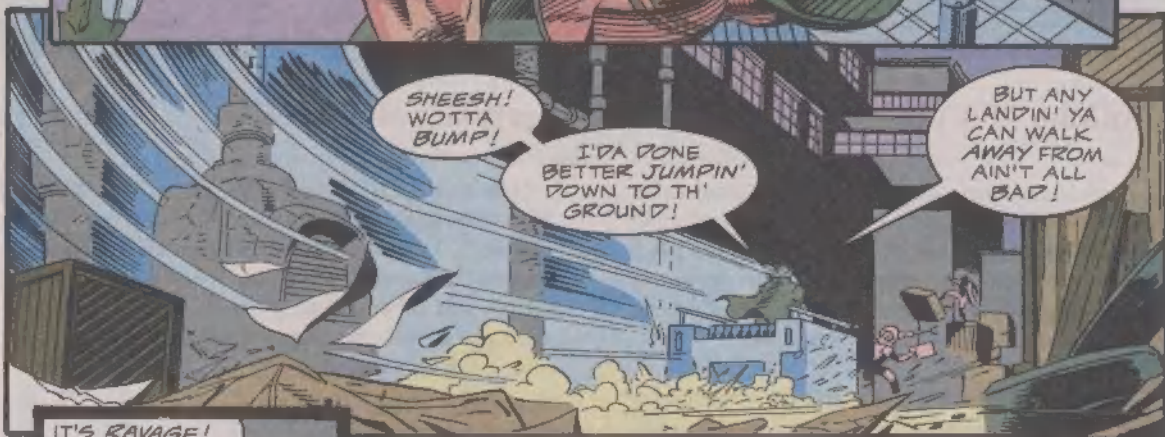
HYPELINE: SALE THIS WEEK

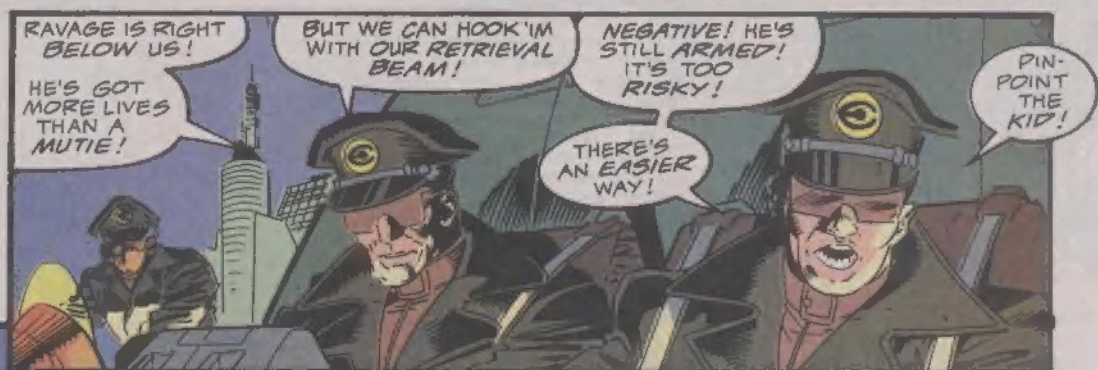
- AKIRA **comics** It's Otomo-ified!
- ALPHA FLIGHT #120: Polybagged with a poster, a pin-up, and a puppy! (Okay, so there's not really a puppy!)
- AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #377: What is Cardiac's **comics** to Slyx **comics** Stone?
- AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: Babysitting is tough! So **comics** fighting a counterfeiting ring!
- CAPTAIN AMERICA ANNUAL #12: Introducing the Battling Bantam!
- DARKHOLD #8: It's on the best-seller lists—in Hell!
- DEATH'S HEAD 2 #6: **comics** full colour!

- GHOST RIDER #37: Hark, the Archangel sings...!
- GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY **comics** Team up with the Galactic Guardians!
- INVADERS #1 OF 4: The greatest heroes of World War 2 are back—with an *addendum*!
- LANCE BARNES: POST NUKE DICK #2 OF 4: "Dick" meaning "private detective," natch!
- PERDURON 2 #11: Baron Blood and Union Jack fight tooth and nail!
- PUNISHER WAR ZONE #15: **comics**

- comics** shocking discovery **comics** his wife and kids!
- comics** #48: It's the all-new Shock Troop to the rescue!
- RAVAGE 2009 #8: Ravage's body is changing, and it ain't puberty!
- SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #205: So savage you'll spew!
- SECRET DEFENDERS #3: The thrilling conclusion! Written by Roy "No longer a boy, now he is a man" Thomas!
- SILVER SABLE #12: Sable confronts her father, the Senior Sable!

- SLEEPWALKER #24: We **comics** Rick—don't switch minds with a Sloopwalker!
- WILD THING #2: The Virtual Reality Venom will make your heart sing!
- WOLVERINE #69: In **comics** Savage Land with Sauron and Rogue!
- WONDER MAN #21: Wonder Man loses a leading lady!
- X-MEN ADVENTURES #7: Get wired for Cable as our hottest mutant makes his Saturday morning debut!







RANTS & RAVES

JOEY CAVALIERI — EDITOR

SARRA MOSSOFF — ASSISTANT EDITOR

c/o MARVEL COMICS, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10016

ALL LETTERS FOR PUBLICATION MUST INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS, ALTHOUGH WE WILL GLADLY WITHHOLD THAT INFO

OUT OF MY HEAD

A quick reminder: I really *do* read all the mail on the 2099 books: the good, the bad, the wild, the weird, the helpful, the hostile. All of it.

In order to keep this Herculean task from becoming Sisyphean, *do me a favor*. Please write the name of the book or letters page you're sending your missive to on the outside of the envelope.

Also, please send your subscription orders directly to the Subscription Dept. by putting their name on your envelopes. You guys are lucky I go through all the fan mail, or those subs would be hopelessly lost.

Thanks for the help.

Dear Rants & Raves,

I have to tell you how much I have been enjoying all the 2099 titles. SPIDER-MAN and DOOM are very exciting. They, like your new PUNISHER series, which I haven't read yet, will appeal to fans of their modern day counterparts.

Ravage is different. He is a new untried commodity. I had my doubts about this character and thought that this would not be a great series but I would try it for a few issues at least. Boy, was I wrong. This series is great. You have created interesting supporting characters and crafted an action-packed storyline to introduce them.

I was most intrigued with the Mutroids from Hellrock. Being a mutant fan I was wondering if these people were the 2099 counterparts of the Morlocks. The leader Dethstryk is interesting. After seeing him in battle I feel that he'll prove a formidable foe for Ravage. While reading issue #2, Dethstryk mentioned that time had dealt harshly with him and this got me thinking; could this possibly be a present-day Marvel character still alive in 2099?

The more I thought about this I thought that Dethstryk could be Magneto. The white hair, his hatred of normal humans (which ~~seems~~ to have increased over the years) and his leadership of the Mutroids who I believe are mutants. The ease in which he defeated Stormer made me think that he used only a small portion of his power and Dethstryk mentioned he had greater power than shown here. This begs the question, if I am correct, why the disguise? Perhaps he doesn't want people to know how old he is. Perhaps the armor houses an old, decrepit body much like the Silvermane character from the present-day SPIDER-MAN titles. Or perhaps he is a wanted fugitive using this disguise to hide in plain sight and achieve his goal of making normal humans extinct. Even if I ~~am~~ wrong about Dethstryk's identity, he's a terrific character nevertheless and a definite plus for this series. Congratulations, you have another winner here!

James Sullivan
P.O. Box 1472
Claremont, NH 93743

We'll be drawing a major distinction between mutants and mutroids in 2099 in the near future, Jason! As for Dethstryk, we'll give more clues to his identity in upcoming issues!

Dear Ravagers,

Have just finished reading RAVAGE #3. My reaction: oh, the sweetness of a truly fine book! Not that Ravage, his enemies or the story setting are sweet; anything but! They ~~are~~ all tough. But how sweet for me as a reader to find this title! Stan Lee's writing is just magnificent! Paul Ryan's pencils and layout are superb! Plus praise for their combined talents on this title. What a remarkable team!

The story moves at the right pace, the dialogue is superior to other books and the art is captivating from the splash to the final page. The covers are real eye-catchers as well! Overall, along with the rest of the crew's fine talents, RAVAGE 2099 is a sure-fire winner!

The time spent on character development is paying off and has been a contributing element in cementing me as a diehard fan from issue #1! By now I'll know how the radiation on Hellrock affects Ravage; I hope not in any juvenile way. I like the fact that this book is written for and directed at the older, more mature reader, as opposed to other Marvel titles. But hey, Stan—I trust ya!

In conclusion, all I can say is, more, more, more! Until Ravage becomes a sniveling wimp, Make Mine Marvel!

Mark Schultze
434 Junction Avenue, Apt. #14
Livermore, CA 94550

Stan's taking care to develop Ravage's new power realistically and plausibly, Mark! Let us know what you think!

Hiya folks...

I feel obliged to join Stan back to the fold. You've been missed, old friend. It's evident from what I've read so far that you've lost none of your touch.

I agree wholeheartedly with the feelings presented in this month's "Soapbox." When every third page in a comic is a splash panel, it not only makes it difficult to tell a cohesive story, it makes for a comic that's a five-minute read. The ~~use~~ of a more readable format in RAVAGE has not gone unnoticed, and is greatly appreciated.

Nonetheless, I do retain a bit of concern about the "characterization" in the book. The first issue was spectacular, creating a truly unique individual with an indisputably deep personality. I fear, however, that when the naive but sophisticated business-

man became the savage pseudo-Wolverine, you lost a little of the character you had built so well the first issue.

Despite this worry, I continue to enjoy RAVAGE and I once again thank Stan for bringing his flair back to a regular series.

John D. Moon
(Address withheld by request)

Not only Ravage's power but his personality will continue to evolve, as you'll see, John.

Dear Ravers,

I'm an avid fan of the titles in the 2099 series (great idea). But I was wondering, since the Guardians of the Galaxy are based in a future ~~even~~ further than 2099, will we ~~see~~ them in 2099? I was also wondering if you are going to have a mutant mag set in 2099? I think that creating a world one mag at a time was a good idea. Plus having characters who aren't related to the heroes of the past is smart (i.e. Peter Parker III).

Till Ravage needs a brain transplant, Make Mine Marvel!

Merritt R. Davis
P.O. Box 119
Long Pond, PA 18334

The Guardians, as you point out, Merritt, are so far in the future that it might make an appearance improbable. Still, there are so many new, cool characters in the 2099 Universe it'd be a shame not to use 'em first, eh?

NEXT ISSUE: Dack's in the clutches of the Public Eye! Tiana's been nabbed by the forces of New Atlantis! So you can't complain about your problems! See the decision Ravage must make in "The Vengeance of Dragonklaw!"

MORE OF MARVEL 2099

SPIDER-MAN 2099 #7 The most unforgettable ending you'll read all year! But if you turn to it first, that's cheating! And that would only get the Vulture 2099 angry!

DOOM 2099 #5 From the depths of Cyberspace comes the newest challenge for the lord of Latveria...the maniac named Fever! Meet him in "This Man Condemned!"

THE PUNISHER 2099 #4 When Jake Galloway has to protect a defenseless barrio from an incursion by the Cyber Nostra, he doesn't stand alone! It's the "Dawn of the Heroes!"